

What is claimed is:

1. A method for detecting intrusion in a database managed by an access control system, comprising:

5 defining at least one intrusion detection profile, each including at least one item access rate;
associating each user with one of said defined profiles;
receiving a query from a user;
determining whether a result of said query exceeds any one of the item access rates defined in the profile associated with the user; and
10 notifying the access control system, upon determining that the result exceeds any one of the at least one item access rates defined in the associated profile, to alter user authorization, thereby making the received requested query an unauthorized request, before the result of the query is transmitted to the user.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
15 accumulating results from performed queries in a record; and
determining whether the accumulated results exceed any one of said at least one item access rate.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein items subject to item access rates are marked in the database, and wherein any query concerning said items automatically
20 trigger the intrusion detection.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the step of determining whether an item access rate is exceeded includes determining if the query result includes rows from marked items, and proceeding with the intrusion detection process only upon determining that the item access rate is exceeded.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein one of said at least one item access rates defines the number of rows a user may access from a database item at one time.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein one of said at least one item access rates defines the number of rows a group of users may access from a database item at one time.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein one of said at least one item access rates defines the number of rows that may be accessed from a database item over a period of time.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein one of said at least one item access rates defines the number of rows a group of users may access from a database item over a period of time.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the intrusion detection policy further includes at least one inference pattern, the method further comprising:

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accumulating results from performed queries in a record;
comparing said record with at least one of said inference patterns, in
order to determine whether a combination of accesses in said record match said
inference policy; and

5 notifying the access control system, upon determining that a
combination of accesses in the record match said inference policy, to alter the user
authorization, thereby making the received request an unauthorized request, before
said result is transmitted to the user.

10 10. The method of claim 2, wherein items subject to item access rates are
marked in the database, and wherein any query concerning said items automatically
trigger the intrusion detection.

15 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of determining whether an
item access rate is exceeded includes determining if the query result includes rows
from marked items, and proceeding with the intrusion detection process only upon
determining that the item access rate is exceeded.

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